REMARKS

1.   Claims 1-12 were pending in this application. Claims 1-12 have been canceled. New claims 13-26 have been added. Therefore, claims 13-26 are now pending in this application.

2.   The Examiner rejected claims 1-12. Specifically, the Examiner rejected claims 6, 7, 9, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hyder (US Patent 6,233,624), rejected claims 10, 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hyder (US Patent 6,233,624 B1), and rejected claims 1-5, 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hyder (US Patent 6,233,624 B1) in view of Petrusha ("Inside the Windows 95 Registry", pages 172-176).

3.   Claims 1-12 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 13-26. Claims 13-26 are directed toward a method and device for utilizing layered device drivers in which a layered device driver is bound to an emulated device to form a layered device. The layered device is exported under a different name than the emulated device. In this way, the layered device appears to the system as a new device distinct from the emulated device. The layered device can be inserted into a layered stack, specifically by binding a third device driver to the layered device. A layered device driver registration system may be used for registering the layered device driver, particularly for specifying a particular stack and stack position for the layered device driver.

4.   Claims 13-26 are pending in this application. All pending claims are believed to be in a form suitable for allowance. Therefore, the application is believed to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully requests early allowance of the application. The Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned, Jeffrey T. Klayman, if it will assist further examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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